

The motion was adopted and the Bill was passed

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :—The Hon. Minister for Food will make the Statement.

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER FOR
FOOD AND FOREST

Re : removal of ban on inter-district movement of grains except rice and paddy.

SRI K. H. PATIL :

The State Government passed the following Orders to take over wholesale trade in wheat with effect from 6-4-1973 :

- (i) The Karnataka wheat (Restrictions on Purchase and Sale) Control Order, 1973 ;
- (ii) The Karnataka Wheat (Restrictions on purchase and sale) Control (Amendment) Order 1973 ;
- (iii) The Karnataka Wheat (Declaration of Stocks) Order, 1973 ;
- (iv) The Karnataka Wheat (Regulation of Internal Transport) Control Order, 1973 ;
- (v) The Karnataka Foodgrains (Retail) Dealer's Licensing (Amendment) Order, 1973 ;
- (vi) Notification No. FCL 6 RPF 73 dated 6th April, 1973, notifying the wheat surplus areas.
- (vii) Karnataka Jowar (Regulation of Inter-District Transport) Control Order, 73

2. As there was severe drought conditions at the time in certain areas of the State and the prices of open market wheat and its products were ruling very high, a decision was taken to give permission to the dealers to dispose of the stocks held by them. This step had to be taken, since the Central allotment of wheat to the State Government was very meagre during that period and the State was not having sufficient buffer stock to meet the requirements of the ordinary and the bulk consumers in case the schemes of wholesales trade in wheat was implemented. Since the allotment of wheat from the Central Pool had not improved till June 1973 and the drought conditions continued in the wheat-growing areas, the implementation of the scheme of wholesales trade in wheat had to be held back. The supply position of wheat allotted from the Central Pool improved only for a few months, *i. e.*, from June to October; and by the time procurement of local wheat could be thought of, the allotment was drastically reduced by the Government of India. We are now in the same position as during 1973 in regard to supply of wheat. Even though the prospects of harvest of wheat are bright in the wheat-growing areas, the total production cannot meet the total requirements of the State without adequate release of allotments from the Central Pool.

3. Under the above circumstances, it is considered necessary to remove all the restrictions in respect of wheat and wheat products. This is proposed to be done by issuing instructions to all the authorities concerned to keep in abeyance the enforcement of the various orders mentioned above. The resultant position would be that the wheat and wheat products will flow through the normal trade channels without any restrictions either with regard to purchase, conversion in to products or with regard to movement from one place to another.

(Sri K. H. Patil)

4. It has also been decided to remove all the curbs on the movement of coarse grains from District to District. The present restriction on the inter district movement of Jawar will be removed forthwith. This would mean that the movement of all grains except Paddy and Rice will be completely free throughout the State.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 1 P.M.

THE HOUSE ADJOURNED AT EIGHT MINUTES PAST SIX OF
OF THE CLOCK TO MEET AGAIN AT ONE OF THE CLOCK
ON THURSDAY THE 8TH MARCH 1974.

ANNEXURE

THE KARNATAKA AGRICULTURAL LANDS (PROHIBITION OF ALIENATION (REPEALING)) BILL, 1974.

(L. A. Bill No. 8 of 1974)

A Bill to repeal the Mysore Agricultural Lands Prohibition of Alienation) Act, 1973.

Whereas the Mysore Agricultural Lands Prohibition of Alienation) Act, 1973 (Karnataka Act 24 of 1973) was enacted pending enactment of the Mysore Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1973;

And whereas the Mysore Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1973 has become an Act;

And, whereas it is considered necessary to repeal the Mysore Agricultural Lands (Prohibition of Alienation) Act, 1973 (Karnataka Act 24 of 1973);